



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Planning and Evaluation
Washington, D.C. 20201

March 26, 2004

Edward J. Sondik, Ph.D.
Director
National Center for Health Statistics, CDC

Dear Ed:

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is sponsoring our second National Health Information Infrastructure (NHII) conference, to be held July 20-23, 2004 in Washington, D.C. at the Washington Convention Center. This year's conference, **NHII 04: Cornerstones for Electronic Healthcare**, will convene essential healthcare stakeholders to develop a consensus national action plan for moving NHII forward.

On behalf of DHHS, I invite your organization to endorse the NHII 04 meeting. There is no fee for your endorsement and yet it will significantly benefit you and your members. NHII 04 endorsers are entitled to:

- Participation in the poster sessions on the first day of the meeting
- Your organization's logo and one paragraph description on our NHII web site
- Your organization's name and logo in the conference program
- A web-link from the NHII web site to your organization's web site

The poster sessions will be in a ballroom during the lunch and the evening reception on the first day of the meeting. Easels will be provided for your 28 x 22 inch poster.

As endorsers of the NHII 04 conference, DHHS asks that your organization provide a web-link with the conference information on your website and that you distribute the attached conference overview to your staff and members.

Our registration website is www.hsrnet.net/nhii. We are excited about the NHII 04 conference and hope that you will participate as an endorser.

Sincerely,

William A. Yasnoff, M.D., Ph.D., FACMI
Senior Advisor, National Health Information Infrastructure
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

NHII 04: Cornerstones for Electronic Healthcare

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is a leader in promoting public-private collaboration to facilitate the progress of developing and implementing the National Health Information Infrastructure (NHII). This year's second annual conference, **NHII 04: Cornerstones for Electronic Healthcare**, will gather essential healthcare stakeholders to review, extend and amplify last year's action agenda. The result will be a consensus national action plan **coming directly from the stakeholders** for moving NHII forward. The goal of the meeting is to move the NHII agenda forward by:

- establishing a vision of the NHII in seven to ten years;
- reviewing the major issues raised last year and reporting on progress made in the last year;
- focusing on topic areas which are key issues related to the NHII;
- involving stakeholders in developing the way forward.

A new feature of the 2004 conference includes a pre-meeting tutorial on July 20th by William A. Yasnoff, M.D., Ph.D., FACMI, to inform those unfamiliar with NHII issues and terminology. Additionally, stakeholders will be more engaged in 2004 when developing the action agenda through their participation in the five breakout sessions covering eight topic areas and ten stakeholder group. To ensure that every voice is heard, sixteen professional facilitators will facilitate all breakout sessions. And finally, the last day of the conference will be an official hearing of the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics to receive the meeting's recommendations for advancing NHII.

Please visit the meeting website www.hsrnet.net/nhii and register for the NHII 04 conference being held **July 20 – 23, 2004 at the Washington D.C. Convention Center**. Plan to attend and make a difference in the development of the National Health Information Infrastructure action plan.



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